

inconvenient to the trade to raise or lower flour, say, 5 cents a barrel every time wheat changed a cent a bushel. It is possible that millers are more prompt in using a bulled wheat market to advance flour than they are in lowering their product when the raw material is beared, but in the main, competition among millers is the great factor regulating the price of flour, and we believe prices are fairly proportionate from season to season. Our last week's Montreal market report records a drop in flour, due to price-cutting. As for the stone vs. roller-process flour, the former has been supplanted because by it the bran and shorts are ground so fine that it is impossible to separate them so completely from the flour particles, hence the stone-process flour makes a darker loaf. As for danger of appendicitis from using roller flour, we do not think this idea is entertained by the best authorities. Prof. Harcourt, chemist at the Ontario Agricultural College, did some investigation work a few years ago in comparing different grades of flour for breadmaking, and his general conclusion, we believe, was that the finer flours made a lighter and more digestible loaf, and that a pound of white bread, therefore, contained more digestible protein than a pound of brown bread. The main claim for the brown or Graham loaf was that it had a more laxative effect, which to some people might be an advantage, and to others not. For use in an unleavened form, as for stock-feeding purposes, the comparison would be more favorable to the whole-wheat flour.

DAIRY.

Dairy Outlook Good.

The Scottish Farmer, in the following article, discerns better times ahead for the Old Country dairyman, from which we may reasonably infer that prospects will continue bright for milk producers on this side of the Atlantic:

"The dairy farmers are apparently going to get better prices for their milk this season than they have hitherto been in the habit of obtaining. At least, there are several points which lead one to think that the dairymen will have to advance their prices. Cheese is selling at a good figure, with a tendency to rise. Foreign butter has risen in value on account of the imports being considerably below the normal. This looks as if there were better times in store for the hard-working dairy farmer and his household. Of course, the wholesale buyers will endeavor to get the milk as cheaply as possible, which is quite the thing in the business world, but owing to the higher price of dairy produce and the reduction in imports from abroad, the sales are likely to be fully equal to last autumn. There is a very keen demand for milk at the present time, and dairymen are quite concerned to know where they can get their regular winter supply. The conditions are, on the whole, extremely favorable to the dairy farmer, who will no doubt make the best of the opportunity placed within his reach, either individually or through the officials of the numerous dairy associations. In union is strength, and the members of such associations are likely to fare better than individuals."

Care of Milk and Cream in the Home.

The following simple instructions regarding the care of milk and cream in the household were given by Prof. H. H. Dean in an address before the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association in January last, and may be worthy of consideration by some farmers' wives, as well as by town and city housekeepers:

Milk and cream should always be kept in tightly-stoppered vessels. In the majority of houses you will find the milk poured out into a pitcher or pail and allowed to stand in the pantry or refrigerator or some other place where it takes in all kinds of flavors. A great many people, especially when they have company, are very anxious to have it thought that they have large supplies of cream, and they will set a pint pitcher on the table and perhaps not one third or a quarter of this is used at a meal, and the room being warm, the lactic organisms are developed rapidly, and that milk is emptied into the bottle with the rest of the supply, with the result that it all soon becomes sour. I think it is much better to put a small amount on the table—not more than will be used up at a meal. Milk from a sick room should never be taken into the general household, and it should never be put upon the table after being left in the sick room, because milk has every requirement for the development of those organisms which multiply at a marvellous rate of speed, and after leaving it in the sick room for a short time it becomes completely seeded, and that is the reason why a

great many diseases are spread. A great many people will take a spoon out of a dish containing sour milk and put it into a pitcher of fresh milk. A small amount of sour milk will soon set fresh milk souring.

Why You Should Dairy.

In the Iowa Agriculturist a few phases of dairy economics are discussed by Prof. G. L. McKay, most of whose observations are as pertinent here as in Iowa. We give below some excerpts from his article:

It was my privilege a few years ago to visit the dairy countries of Europe. I found there farmers dairying successfully on land worth \$300 or \$400 per acre. I also found in some places they were importing American corn to feed their dairy cows, and then meeting us in open competition in English market.

In the north-east portion of our State, where dairying is carried on extensively, you will find fine homes, and you will also find probably more money deposited in their banks than in any other part of our State. We get more students to attend our agricultural college from the dairy sections of the country, which means greater prosperity for these farmers.

It has been demonstrated in various parts of the world, especially in the denser-populated portions of Europe, that the cow is a more economical producer than the ox.

Dairying, more than any other form of commercial activity, adds to the wealth of the nation. Butter forms a large part of the output, and butter takes practically no fertility from the land. The elements that go to make it have been drawn from the air, sunshine and the rain. You will sell off as much fertility in one ton of timothy hay as you will in 87 tons of butter, so

If we expect to get adequate returns from the money invested in land, we must endeavor to get twice the revenue we formerly received. You can't keep a cow for the value of the calf alone, unless you expect to get an abnormal price for breeding purposes. You can sell your cream to the creamery and produce calves that will top the market by feeding the warm skim milk. Butter-fat is not a profitable or valuable food for calves. Where you have a hand separator you can have your milk in the best possible condition for feeding the calves, the pigs or the chickens, and the butter-fat you can sell to the creamery. The man who can sell \$30 to \$35 worth of butter-fat per cow, and at the same time raise a good calf, has nothing to fear from hard times.

The successful dairyman tries to keep a large supply of succulent food for his cows the year round. For winter feeding, ensilage approaches nearer summer conditions than any other food. Alfalfa and clover hay are two of the best feeds that a dairyman can grow. It takes about 60 per cent. of the food that a cow consumes to maintain her, and we should get our profits from the extra food consumed, so we can see the necessity of giving an abundant supply of food.

It has been demonstrated in a number of places that cows coming in in the fall will give about 25 per cent. more milk than cows coming in in the spring. The reasons for this are obvious. During the flush of her milk she is free from flies, heat and draught. The grass comes on in the spring and stimulates her waning powers. In connection with this, there is more time for caring for the cows than during the busy season, and prices are usually better.

Complaint has been made that dairying is confining. Did you ever hear of anyone making a success in life without work? Our likes and dislikes depend much on the amount of remuneration we receive. Dairying furnishes employment on the farm for the boys and girls, and this means better men and better women.

I have no particular choice as to the kind of cows to keep. This is a good deal like a man getting a wife—it will depend largely upon the kind he prefers. If you are going to keep cows exclusively for butter, the Jersey, Guernsey and Holstein are desirable breeds. If you are going to take into consideration the value of the calf, which seems quite necessary in our state, the milking strain of the Short-horn meets the requirements about as well as any. The only reliable test for a cow is the amount of butter she produces. If she does not produce 215 pounds of butter-fat a year, she is not a desirable cow to keep.

In conclusion, I would say that I believe it possible for a man on 160 acres of the average Iowa land to sell \$600 or \$800 worth of butter-fat per year from his herd, and at the same time produce as much from his other crops as the man who does not keep any cows.



Belle Sarcastic.

Holstein cow. Owned by Michigan Agricultural College. (See Gossip.)

if you wish to keep your land intact and leave a heritage to your children, it is better to sell more butter and less hay. It is no wonder that every nation in the civilized world is trying to build up a dairy business.

An interview was given by a representative of the Harvest Machine Trust lately, in which he said it was his custom to learn whether the prospective buyer depended upon grain and hogs alone for his income, or milked cows. When he has ascertained this he knows how much cash in hand he will get and how much credit he will be forced to extend, as farmers who keep cows have been turning in 75 per cent. cash and 25 per cent. in notes, while farmers who are devoting themselves to grain and who "haven't time to milk a cow," are turning in 25 per cent. cash and 75 per cent. in notes. Hard times affect the dairy section least of all. Crop failures do not bring general disaster to a dairy farm, as they invariably do to the corn and hog farmer. The semi-monthly check is very much appreciated by farmers. Corn, cows and hogs are the three graces of Iowa prosperity. Any combination that neglects the cow needs revision. She brings home the groceries, pays the hired man, kills the book account and nurses the bank account, while the corn ripens and the pigs grow into porkers. It is said that four good cows will pay a hired man's wages. Most farmers are after the money, and there is money in cows—not only money, but highly fertilized farms. The cow yard is the farmer's mint.

You go back with me to the New England States, or portions of New York State, and you will find a depreciation in the soil of millions of dollars, through careless farming. You can buy there land to day for \$25 or \$30 per acre, that formerly sold from \$100 to \$125 per acre. These lands have buildings in abundance, and everything but the fertility of the soil.

Improvement of Dairy Herds.

By way of introduction to a bulletin recently issued on the above subject, Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Canadian Dairy Commissioner, says:

The information contained in this bulletin is published with a view to awakening a greater interest in the important question of the improvement of dairy herds. The writer believes there is no direction in which the dairy farmers of Canada can further their interests so materially as by taking up this question in a thorough and systematic manner.

Authorities agree that the average production of Canadian dairy cows is not much, if any, over 3,000 pounds of milk a year. That individual herds show much better results only goes to show the possibility of general improvement in this direction. On the other hand, we find that the reports from 483 Danish creameries (over one-third of all the creameries in the country) show an average yield per cow of 5,351 pounds a year in 1903. Again, it is recorded that 1,014 herds in one province of Denmark averaged over 6,000 pounds of milk per cow in 1903, and 628 herds yielded over 7,700 pounds per cow, other herds going as high as 11,000 pounds and over. Special attention is drawn to the fact that these records are taken from the regular dairy herds of the country, and not from special or "fancy" herds.

Are Canadian dairymen going to remain content with such comparatively poor results when it is clear that so much improvement may be made with a little intelligent effort?

Any scheme which has for its object the im-